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Olive Trees

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VOL. XXXI

JULY, 1917

No. 7

A MONTHLY MISSIONARY JOURNAL
Published by The Board of Foreign Missions
of the Reformed Presbyterian Church of
North America in the interest of Mission Work

SPECIAL NEWS FROM THE FIELD

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OLIVE TREES

A Monthly Missionary Journal

PUBLISHED BY THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS OF
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AT 500 CATHARINE STREET, PHILADELPHIA, PA.

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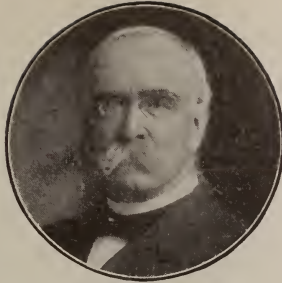
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DR. SOMMERVILLE founded "OLIVE TREES" and edited it for 29 years.

OLIVE TREES

A Monthly Journal devoted to Missionary Work in the Reformed Presbyterian Church, U. S. A.

VOL. XXXI

JULY, 1917

No. 7

EDITORIALS

From many was heard the expression that our late meeting of Synod was the best ever attended. There certainly was an absence of personal feeling and a spirit of brotherly love present which has been growing for the past years.

The Foreign Board is not yet perfect. Last year its action in taking over OLIVE TREES called forth some adverse criticism. This year the sending of Dr. Wright to Canton caused Synod to spend some time in discussing its actions.

The Board realizes that it is the agent of Synod, but like any agent who is trying to advance the work, it is compelled to act oftentimes without being able to consult the principals. Yet like a good agent it always seeks to secure the principals' instructions the first opportunity and to abide by their rules and counsel.

In sending Dr. Wright to Canton the Board did so only with a view to increasing the efficiency of our work in China and helping the whole cause of Christ in the Kwang Tung Province.

We cannot run a medical school of our own as we can a seminary or a

normal school, and we thought that in having Dr. Wright as a teacher in a Christian medical school in Canton we were in no way violating any principle of our Church, but that we were helping to give South China, doctors educated under Christian influence and helping to conserve medicine for Christianity. However, if Dr. Wright cannot teach in Canton without involving us in union missionary work, the Board will gladly reconsider its action. We realize it a question which has different viewpoints and we only ask the Church to think it through from every angle.

A recent note from Rev. Dr. A. I. Robb indicates that he is improving in health. He is still somewhat weakened, as might be expected, but with a steady gain he will soon be free from the dregs of the malaria. His address is Glen Haven, Estes Park, Colorado. He is fitted up in a cabin 7200 feet above sea level. With his family he is enjoying a real vacation, which, we trust the Lord will greatly bless to him by speedily restoring him to health and fitting him for yet greater service.

The war will soon be entering its fourth year, and it is only increasing in extent and terribleness. Those who ought to know best say that it will be three more years before the German military power is crushed. May the other nations, as Admiral Beatty counseled at the beginning of the war, get down on their knees and so bring victory to the cause of the Lord. There are many lessons which the Lord wants us all to learn.

The Church can realize how little she has been doing for the cause of Christ and how final victory for Him can never come until we undertake in a deeper consecration. The enemy the Church has been fighting all these years is a far stronger and more cruel enemy than even the German military power. May the Church mobilize all her forces and call upon her members for any sacrifice and realize that when we put Christ first in everything that He will give us the Victory.

This number of OLIVE TREES is late for a number of reasons. Last year we published July and August as a double number but the Post Office authorities will not allow us to call it a double number. To meet the demands of the higher power we give you the extra material but call it a single number. There will be no August issue but the September number will be out in good time. We hope to start the Mission Study class in the September number and also to have a special article on Mission study from the pen of Miss Louise Carson.

HER GRATITUDE.

Dr. Campbell Morgan tells of a poverty-stricken fish-wife who was found on Christmas Day eating a Christmas dinner which consisted of a piece of bread and a toasted herring.

Her visitor said something to her of the poverty of the fare, and the old woman, with face aglow, replied: "Poor fare? Dear heart, don't you see the Lord has laid tribute on sea

and land to feed me this blessed Christmas day?"—*Ex.*

We wish to call special attention to the June number containing the Annual Report of the Corresponding Secretary. The report was gotten up with the view of furnishing concise information about the work for the benefit of Missionary Societies, Young People's Societies and Individuals. Instead of giving the regular field reports of the individual missionaries Dr. Wilson has gathered the important facts of the work in each field and in each department so that they can be easily secured and used throughout the year. This has made the report a good length, yet we are sure all will be thankful for the great help it will be. This with the map of our China Field and the Statistical Table make the June number of special permanent value and we hope all will keep it where it can be easily reached at any time.

The following poem was found pinned to the wall in Mrs. Ralph's room. It is published in memory of her:

MY EXPECTATION.

(Jesus said) "Behold, I come quickly."
Re. 22: 12.

I'm expecting—I'm believing
That the time will not be long
Ere my Saviour will be coming
And I'll sing the glad new song.

I'm expecting—I'm believing
I shall *all* His glory share,
And the spotless robe He gives me,
I shall in His presence wear.

I'm expecting—I'm believing
Every care will be laid down;
Then I'll change the cross I carry
For my Saviour's promised *crown*.

May I ask—Are you expecting
Soon to reach this happy home?
Oh! the joy! in *Christ believing*,
"WHOSOEVER WILL MAY COME."

M. A. WYKES.

SPECIAL ARTICLES

*OUR WORK IN SYRIA.

By MRS. J. D. EDGAR.

It is within the bounds of a short paper to touch only lightly the gigantic task, the tremendous problems, the heroic effort to meet those problems as found in our Syrian Mission.

We could easily give the entire time to the *little army* doing battle for us there. The hour could be more than spent on the *great problems* with which they have to contend. The *victories won* would consume hours. Aye, this hour could be spent *among the tombs* of those who have fallen.

This paper will fail of its purpose if it does not contribute to a greater volume of prayer from the members of Kansas Presbyterial; if it does not tend to stimulate larger contributions among us and make us search the mission department in the Christian Nation, more eagerly, and count the days more restlessly, as we await the next number of the OLIVE TREES. How eagerly the mothers of Europe wait for news from the front. They have interests there. They want to know like the waiting Israelites at home, how the battle goes. Whether their valient armies are being sorely pressed. And when the battles are won how they thank God. And when they are lost, how grave they look, and if at all accustomed to prayer, how they pour out petition for victory. How humiliated they feel under defeat. How they "pray without ceasing" as they go about their work. There is no question in their minds

about being able to pray without ceasing.

We have our little army in Syria, representing the Covenanters Albania, and should we follow their movements with less interests, should we pray less fervently for a victorious army, should we pray less continuously than they? When we consider that it is not for human hearthstones, these brave soldiers of our are fighting, but for the great hearthstones of God; when we consider that it is not for the honor of a Nation which will perish by and by, but for the honor of the Kingdom of Jesus Christ, which is an Everlasting Kingdom that shall not be cut off, that they are fighting; should not this work and these workers have for the few minutes allotted to this paper, the keenest attention, our continued volume of prayer, our deepest concern.

For the sake of convenience let us study our MISSION IN SYRIA, under three heads—*The Problems, The Force, The Victories.*

I. The Problems of Our Syrian Mission. So varied are the problems that we can only touch them. We discuss them that there may be a keener appreciation of our work and workers.

1. First is the difficulty of getting locations for our buildings. Especially has it been difficult to secure land on which to erect church buildings. The recent laws passed by the Turkish Parliament, we understand, has made it even more difficult than in former years. In some instances we understand our missionaries have spent many years in an effort to secure land for such purposes, and in one case after spending over twelve years the long, hard effort was fruitless. This makes very difficult the matter of erecting church buildings except where ground was purchased years before the government became so strict against the sale of land for church buildings.

2. In Chinese the difficulty lies in

*Read at Superior Convention and requested for publication.

mastering "tones." But in Arabic, we who have studied it, think it is worse. Those awful gutturals that you have to work at for at least three or four months, and in some cases longer. And when you get them what do you have? But the feeling that you are about to cough up something that is about half way down. As for instance, "ghein" and "ain" and "gkoff."

Besides the Arabic there is the difficulty of having to deal with people of three other tongues—Turkish and Greek and Armenian. One strange jabber is enough, but when you add three more, oh dear—.

3. The attitude of the Government. In almost every conceivable way does the Turkish Government hamper the work. From keeping the missionary from bringing in some clean salt, some good lard or a little bite of good American ham and bacon, to killing the converts, runs the opposition. If it were not for the powers of Europe the Government would forbid any missionary work, on pain of death. Was not the pork of good Dr. Metheny thrown into the sea at Messina and have not some of our converts disappeared forever.

4. The Migration of the converts. So many leave for North or South America and Egypt and Europe when once they learn to know Christ. Jesus Christ makes men free and it is hard indeed to endure Turkish tyranny when once they know that freedom, and so they leave sometimes as fast as they are converted. This accounts for the very small membership, after all these years' work. You cannot keep them there. Under such circumstances it can be readily seen how hard it is to build up a native church. When you find some promising material for the Eldership of the Ministry, the Government brings some undue pressure to bear for some unknown reason and he is compelled to flee the country. This accounts partially for the small native Eldership and Ministry.

5. The indifference of the people. The people in Turkey are not Gospel hungry as in many other lands. We used to know a man who never experienced hunger. He had to be told that he was hungry, either by the position of the sun, the hands of his watch or in some such way. And the first thing the missionary has to do in Turkey is to teach the people that they are starving without Christ. The work is hard enough where they are hungry, but where there is no appetite, it is not an easy matter to do the cooking.

6. Add to this indifference the fanaticism of the people. Here you have one of the greatest obstacles of the work. It is begotten of the pair, Ignorance and Bigotry. And it is aggravated in the fact that it is found in different forms among different races. If it were all confined to a single race it could be more easily overcome.

In Nicosian Cyprus, it poisoned Mr. Dimitriades, and in Larnace it is believed to have poisoned Rev. J. R. W. Stevenson. It was this fanaticism which cast the books and household effects of our missionaries to Zahleh into the street and caused us to abandon that field. It was the same fanaticism which threatened to tear Fitikides limb from limb in Cyprus, which looted his store, and tore away any buildings in which some of our converts carried on legitimate business. It tried to boycott certain converts; it burned the church building in Darnaca, Cyprus; it tore stone from stone in the new, neat little chapel at Eldaney, into which love and sacrifice had gone; and where the converts gathered on the Sabbath and worshipped, leaving the wondering weeping worshipers without a house of prayer.

7. Last, the immorality, where the sins of the fathers have been visited on the children to the third and fourth generation, greatly hinders and handicaps the work. When a boy or girl has been trained by all the skill of an

adept, and by the blood of generations to lie it takes more than a day to train it out, and when the sins of hate and dishonesty and uncleanness have been inborn for generations and often connived at by elders, it is no easy task to combat them.

II. The Force. It well nigh makes us weep as we think of the force today. How few they are! We could weep because they are so few. How brave they are! We weep when we think of their bravery. No iron cross upon their breast as appreciation of an earthly king. No beautiful Victoria Cross can proudly be worn in token of valiant service on the field. Worthy? Do you see the People's and McFarland's, and Miss Sterritt, her furlough overdue, worn out; Mr. French Carrithers; do you see them laboring, toiling, praying, cut off from the world, in that Mission Compound at Mersine, as its buildings and the sea form four walls around Dr. Metheny's grave? Little do they know how soon one or more of their number may join him; their bodies placed beside his. Because of the awful want, they impoverish themselves to clothe the naked and to feed the hungry. Brave hearts! They shall have better than a Victoria Cross by and by, for their service. They shall dine with the king. See them as they work for you now, they wear *Crowns of Righteousness* which fade not away.

The Wilsons and Elma French would be as brave and true if they were on the field, but as they are providentially hindered from going back on account of the war they must be content to wait and pray, and that takes as much courage as if they were on the field of their choice.

And yonder in Cyprus, where the war has affected the work less than on the mainland, we see sacrifice, and hard work. Rev. Walter McCarroll, in order to stay on the field, is under the necessity of being separated from

his wife and four children. If you think that easy let a sea separate you from those dearest to you—let that vast sea be strewn with deadly peril. If it seems a little thing, try it for one short year.

And there is Dr. McCarroll and family, Charles Stewart, Dwight Conner and Wilbur Weir. All of them struggling bravely to live and teach a Living Gospel to a lost people. We ought to know them by name and pray for them personally every day.

When one looks at the quarter of a million of people left in Cyprus, for them to reach, one is constrained to say of them what Andrew said of the lad's loaves and fishes, "What are they among so many?" Every foreign mission field of the Levant is undermanned. Every worker has three or four persons' work ahead of him.

We sometimes hear the force in the Levant criticised for not accomplishing more. Did you ever have about twenty undone tasks stare you in the face in the morning when you arose? Then you know how the force feels all day long in our Syrian Mission Field. If they could only catch up, there would be relief. When do we accomplish most? When there is a great muddle of work ahead, or when we can see a possibility of catching up and keeping up? Every mother knows there is but one answer. Let us do our best to see that the field is so manned by a sufficient force, that those on the field may be able to concentrate and catch up. Let us criticise ourselves for not more faithfully standing back of them, with our means and prayers and letters of encouragement. Criticism does not help. It hinders. Let us not do the things that hinder. If we are not satisfied with results, why not devote the time to prayers that we devote to criticising. We will see more results if we do.

Then there is the force at Latakia. How few they are. Cut off for months at a time from their loved ones and

native land. Shut off from the expression of our sympathy. Shut off from everything but their hard daily grind and the Throne of God. Miss Maggie B. Edgar, as devoted, wise and brave a soldier of the cross as ever entered the service of the Great King, living yonder in that great three-story house alone, month after month, surrounded with a high, bare stone wall. * * * Some of us get frightened if we have to stay over night alone with our children. But what courage if we had to live among strangers—in a hostile nation—in constant peril. What faith and courage. To face a cannon's roaring roaring mouth is easy as compared with such a lingering situation. If you and I can hardly trust the Lord to keep us a night or two alone in a land where we need not lock our doors, what of the trust of one who can live, for you and me and the Covenanter Church and Christ, alone in that girls' school compound until the days become weeks and the weeks months and the months, weary years. Should we not increase our volume of prayer for her? Remember she is there representing you and me. Isn't she worthy the very best we have to bestow. How little we appreciate her. Just across the street in another compound is the Stewart family alone. The situation with them is similar to that of Miss Edgar, except that they have one-another, Mr. Stewart, burdened with Governmental as well as Mission affairs. They, too, are heroes. We think of the Heroes of Scotland, who did so much—who lived and died to give us civil and religious liberty. Our blood is stirred when we read of their brave struggles. But the names of the Stewarts and Miss Edgar will go down in history alongside the names of the brave men and women of Scotland if history be faithfully written. They will have their place in God's Hall of Fame.

The rest of the Latakia force are at

home. How they long to be back at their work, but Providence and the wickedness of man do not permit. Dr. Balph, Miss Florence Mearns and the Edgars are waiting as patiently as they can. God has some wise purpose in permitting them to be kept from the work so long. We have faith to believe that after the war every one on the force will be worth at least twice as much as at present as is the case in China since the Boxer uprising. Pray that it may be so. Pray that the sadly inadequate force may be enlarged to its proper size.

III. The Victories. The battle line has been longer than the battle of the Marne or of the Aisne. The battle line has been longer than in *either* of these. It begins far over to the west in Asia Minor and extends along the Mediterranean front and where the Mediterranean bends south, it, too, bends to the south and extends far to the south past Alexandretta, Kessab, Guniamia, Latakia, as far as Tartoots. It would take a horse and its rider probably ten or eleven days to ride along the entire front. And it reaches just as far back as the force can penetrate into the mountains. You can count thousands of towns and villages on the field of battle. Besides this there is the Island of Cyprus. All this to conquer, and how many soldiers are at the front today to conquer this vast territory.

What force have we to conquer territory so vast? You can't expect victories without an army. Just fifteen at the front. Not fifteen million, nor even fifteen thousand, but fifteen. If England were trying to conquer Germany with an army of fifteen what would we say? Would we expect victories? She tried to—at least pretended—to try to preserve Belgian neutrality with a paltry army of 100,000 men and it made some despise her. The force was so small and inadequate that it appeared like a burlesque. We said England could not expect a victory with so small a force.

And she was steadily driven back until she materially increased the force. And it is hardly large enough yet. But what of the Covenanter Church looking for victories with an army of eighty-three when all are on the field. The Devil can sit on his throne in hell and laugh at us for expecting victories. Our church is only playing in Turkey.

And have no victories been won? The little band yonder has been a Gideon's band. Like a score of Waldensian soldiers who defeated a Romish army of 40,000 so have they been. Every soul won has been won after a valiant fight. It is not like working in other fields where the fruit is already ripe and about all that is necessary is to pick it. Every plant in this adverse climate and bad soil has had to be carefully nourished and encouraged before life could be discerned. But life in one after another has been seen, until the church roll gives abundant evidence of the quality of the soldiery.

But the church roll tells little of the real victory. God has kept the missionaries in Turkey and Cyprus to "prepare the way" for a great ingathering which will soon come, we believe, as soon as the war is over. The victory of the past is that of establishing and holding outposts against the enemy until his power breaks. When it breaks our work will all be organized and not only ready to strike but to care for the church when its great growth comes.

And, besides, there is a large company on God's Book who are not on the church roll, whom you will meet in heaven. Are we not satisfied if they are saved through our instrumentality? Is not that what we are in the field for? For one reason and another they have not joined the church, but they are HIS. That is the great objective of all the work, and when the flank of the enemy is turned, and his forces roll back you

will find these working with our forces. The victory, so far, then, is that we will have a native force on the field already trained to gather in the harvest.

All this is leaven in the lump. Many are just waiting when the spell and tyranny of the Turkish Government is broken, to openly align themselves with the Christ. The leavening of the lump is more far-reaching than we have a way to estimate, but all the hard work will tell when the tide is turned.

What is the victory then? Is it not souls saved? The native church built up, even though yet small? The hard ground partially mellowed for the coming spring? The force in the field ready to gather in the harvest when it is ripe? The leaven well mixed through the dough already working, preparing the great lump for the baking. The victory of holding on, waiting, watching, praying, developing a force whose courage no obstacle can daunt, which will finally win and lead to Christ a vast empire.

THE DEACON AND HIS OXEN.

Deacon Hunt was naturally a high-tempered man, and used to beat his oxen over their heads, as all his neighbors did. It was observed that when he became a Christian his cattle were remarkably docile.

A friend inquired into the secret. "Why," said the deacon, "formerly when my oxen were a little contrary, I flew into a passion and beat them unmercifully; this made the matter worse. Now, when they do not behave well, I go behind the load, sit down, and sing 'Old Hundred.' I don't know how it is, but the psalm tune has a surprising effect upon my oxen."—*Ex.*

Through the kindness of the Lo Ting Club, of Cambridge, Mass., congregation we have extracts from a letter of Mrs. Dickson, of Lo Ting.

Tak Hing, South China,
February 3, 1917.

Dear Friends:

I wish you could all have been with Mrs. Wright and Paul and me last Tuesday night when the club box arrived. I knew it was almost here but hadn't expected it quite so soon, so when I walked out to the back porch after supper and saw it sitting there I knew that we would have a great time that evening in opening it and seeing the surprises in it. Dr. Wright and Ellsworth were in Canton, so there were just the three of us to be at the "opening," and I really think Mrs. Wright and Paul enjoyed it nearly as much as I did. The things in it were fine. I am sure we can never thank you properly for your kindness, either in sending the personal gifts or those to be used in the work here. Those companion boxes are something I had never seen and they are very, very nice, and will certainly delight the heart of any youngster who is fortunate enough to get one. The colored crayons and the needle books are very good prizes, too, and we are so glad to have them. We are about all out of booklets so I can make very good use of those you sent and also of the postcards. The Chinese will be much pleased when they see the pretty warm quilt. We hope to be able to use this and the last one you sent before many more months. The colors in them are just what they like best. And they will like the little doll that H— B— dressed, and we will probably use it in the hospital to help comfort some little youngster's heart.

Lo Ting, February 27, 1917.

I began this letter while in Tak Hing over three weeks ago and didn't intend to be so long finishing it. We had a splendid time in Tak Hing last month. The Tak Hing people are always so nice to us all.

Chinese New Year came the second week of our stay in Tak Hing, and this hindered us in returning to Lo Ting as soon as we otherwise would have done, for at that time we could not hire anyone to bring us back. You can imagine what the day means to the Chinese when in Canton and Hong Kong big Chinese department stores close down for three and four days. I doubt if the very poorest Chinaman would work on that day, and most of them take several days' vacation. Crowds come every day to the mission compounds and the Christian Chinese and the foreigners talked the gospel to them. Some were very much interested and others would listen rather indifferently. The object of most Chinese at this time is to put on their best clothes and go visiting and this lasts several weeks, but the Christians like to use this opportunity to talk to as many as possible.

Since coming back from Tak Hing we have opened up some special prayer meetings, to be held in the house here each Friday, with a few of the Christian women who are more advanced in the Christian life than the others are. We are looking forward to these women taking a larger responsibility for the unsaved in this community than they have done before. We call this a kind of a personal workers' class, and teach these women special Bible verses that are good to use in teaching the doctrine to unbelievers, or are suitable to answer objections that they hear during the week. We also have a list of women for whom they are praying daily, and at these meetings we discuss ways and means of reaching these people, and those who have visited them the previous week report what success they had. One of the women who attend these meetings seems to be possessed with the idea that when her time comes to leave this world she must not return to God empty handed, and for quite a while she has been urging and urging

the other church members to do more than they have ever done before. Several years ago she felt that because she couldn't read she couldn't teach the gospel to others, and that is an excuse Chinese women often use, for they do feel more or less helpless when they cannot read. But this woman has been taking in what Miss Stewart and Mrs. Mitchell have been teaching her during the last two years and seems to have very definitely waked up to the fact that she has a duty to perform whether she can read much or not. We want your prayers for this class of workers and also for all the Christian women, especially for those who are the only Christians in their own villages. It is very hard for them when but one is a Christian for miles around. But a good many of them are doing very well at bringing in their friends when they come to meetings on Wednesday and Sabbath, and we hope to soon see some results of this work.

I have already used some of the cards in the club box with Bible verses on the back and I am going to use the booklets soon. I am sure it takes lots of your time preparing these and doing the sewing on the other things you sent, and I only wish you could see the pleasure they give to the Chinese. I am always very glad to have them. So with many thanks for your generous box and with love and best wishes to you all, I am as ever,

Your frined,
(Signed) FLORENCE.

**ANNUAL REPORT OF WOMEN'S
MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF
GENEVA CONGREGATION.
1916-17.**

The Women's Missionary Society has held twelve regular and four called meetings during the year.

We have on our roll the names of eleven members, and two honorary. Since your last meeting two of our honorary members, Mrs. Crozier and

Mrs. Garrett, after long and painful illnesses, were released, and died peacefully in faith.

Our honorary members are not so designated as an empty compliment, but are not on the roll of regular attendants, because being unable to attend most of the time our reports would give an erroneous idea of our average attendance. One of these members, Mrs. Jordan, living out of our bounds, is seldom able to be present; and the other, Mrs. Coverdale, is prevented by the infirmities of age. We consider it a privilege to have had her with us twice this year. Their interest, their counsel, their contributions, and, we are sure, their prayers, are all freely given. The average attendance was eight.

In November we completed Dr. Balph's book, and in December began World Missions and World Peace, but owing to various interruptions have not quite finished Chapter II.

The Relief Committee reported 57 calls made, five nights spent with a sick boy, and three days with one of our members in the hospital.

Our contributions for the year amounted to \$144.17. Two dollars of this was earned by quilting. Eight dollars was value of clothing distributed to the needy.

We have given to all the Missions of our Church, and among the miscellaneous gifts were comforts for a needy family, and we have sent 83 copies of the New Testament, 101 copies of John's Gospel and a like number of Luke's to Russian prisoners in Germany.

We assess ourselves five cents a month per member for a fund to pay the expenses of the president to the meetings of the Executive Committee. We also pay the expenses of delegates to the conventions.

We record with gratitude the goodness of God in thus far preserving the lives of our missionaries in Syria and Asia Minor, and urge all to be earnest in prayer for them in these days of uncertainty.

The Lord is doing wonderful works in our day. By fearful works he is expressing his answers to our prayers. Let us ask that all nations, our own in particular, may learn the lesson writ large "Righteousness exalteth a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people. The nation and kingdom that will not serve thee shall perish, yea, they shall be utterly wasted."

Respectfully submitted,

MARY E. METHENY,

MRS. J. C. SLATER, Secretary.
President.

FINANCIAL REPORT.

MISSIONS.

RECEIPTS.

| | |
|------------------------------|--------|
| Balance from last year..... | \$2.25 |
| Dues | 40.57 |
| Contingent Fund | 1.20 |
| Donations | 75.45 |
| Thank-Offering last year.... | 27.50 |

| | |
|---------------------------|----------|
| Total | \$146.96 |
| Balance in treasury | \$.76 |

PAYMENTS.

| | |
|--------------------------------|---------|
| Syria and Asia Minor..... | \$10.00 |
| China | 10.00 |
| Indian, Mr. Carithers' salary. | 50.00 |
| Southern | 5.00 |
| Jewish | 6.00 |
| Domestic | 10.00 |
| Miscellaneous | 55.20 |

| | |
|---------------|----------|
| Total | \$146.20 |
| Balance | \$.76 |

\$146.96

Note—Last year our contribution to carpet for the Indian Mission Chapel was not included in our financial report, by some oversight, and as it is not in this either I feel that it is necessary to mention it, as it makes our credit to Indian Mission last year \$60.50.

NEW CONCORD, OHIO, W. M. S.

Annual Report of the L. M. S., of New Concord congregation.

During the year the society has held twelve regular meetings. We have twenty-five names on our roll. In our

Mission Study we have finished the book, "Fifty Years of Mission Work in Syria," and have begun the study of the book entitled, "World Missions and World Peace." The Mission Study is conducted by Mrs. Coleman.

Death has entered our ranks, calling away Miss Eliza A. Elliott, a charter member of our society. We have received three new members in our society during the past year, for which we are thankful. Three of our members are engaged in mission work in the field—Mrs. M. I. Robb in the Southern Field, and Miss Ella Stewart and Mrs. Taggart in China. Mrs. Taggart is at home on furlough. We have been favored with hearing Rev. J. K. Robb and Miss Mary Wilson.

Our work has been preparing and sending fruit to the Aged People's Home and goods to the Southern Mission. In making our annual report we are thankful to our Heavenly Father for His goodness to us, and as we enter the new year let us do so with renewed energy in the Master's work.

(MRS.) MARY WILSON,
President.

(MRS.) SADIE WILSON,
Secretary.

Treasurer's Report of the L. M. S., of New Concord, Ohio, Congregation:
RECEIPTS.

| | |
|--|---------|
| Amount received | \$28.90 |
| Fruit sent to Aged Peoples' Home | 7.00 |
| Two barrels to Southern Mission | 170.00 |

EXPENDITURES.

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---------|
| Tuition for girl in China..... | \$15.00 |
| Memorial for Mr. Will George | 1.50 |
| Memorial for Miss Eliza Elliott | 1.50 |
| Memorial for Mrs. Jesse Wilson | 1.50 |
| Pastor's salary | 10.00 |
| Other expenses | 6.66 |

| | |
|-------------|---------|
| Total | \$36.16 |
|-------------|---------|

(MRS.) ELLEN TAYLOR,
Treasurer.

SECOND NEW YORK W. M. S.

The women of the Missionary Society of Second New York held their regular number of meetings for the year and, in a financial way, it has been the best year since our organization four years ago. The interest in War Relief has claimed the most of our funds. We have resorted to no fairs or outside ways of making money, but the money has come from people conscientious in their giving. It was voted at the January meeting that each member give one day's income to the Syrian and Armenian Relief. Not all the members did this, but enough entered into the spirit of the method to make it more than worth while. The first meeting of the year was a Japanese social, given in honor of our Honorary and Home Department members. The decorations, costumes, program and refreshments were all as nearly as possible Japanese. Another meeting, in which we always take a special interest, is the one in which our delegates to Northfield give their reports. The Misses Ethel Torrens and Gladys Campbell were the regular delegates last year and gave most interesting accounts of the place and the lectures. Miss Sadie Carlew, who attended the convention, kindly assisted in the program by giving her impressions of Northfield and telling us of the Pocket Testament League organized by Mrs. Charles Alexander.

We feel that this custom of sending delegates to Northfield to the Woman's Foreign Missionary Conference is of great benefit to our work here at home. We were favored during the year by lectures from Mrs. Tracey, of the Presbyterian Woman's Board; by Miss Florence Mearns, of our Syrian Mission, and by Mr. Chow, who is attending Dr. White's Bible School in this city. Mr. Chow is a

native preacher and a professor in the college at Hau Chow. All of these lectures were full of interest and inspiration. We felt that it was a special privilege to have Rev. Samuel Edgar preach to us on our Thank-offering Sabbath.

It was a beautiful day and a good audience was present. Mr. Edgar told us particularly of his work in Syria and some of his own experiences since the war began. The Thank-offering collection amounted to \$132.65, the most of which went to the Armenian and Syrian Relief.

The Junior C. E. entertained us at our annual meeting in a very unique way. Much credit is due to the Juniors and especially to their Superintendent, Miss Ethel Torrens, who has had charge of the work since its organization. The Juniors have been studying, among other things, the books, "Jack and Janet Around the World," and "Soldiers of the Prince."

In this entertainment two, representing Jack and Janet, came before the audience to tell of their trip. They had a representative of each country in costume and as the country was called the native appeared, telling of his home and people. The children all sang after each speech the chorus, "The World for Jesus."

The whole program was very well rendered, and most interesting. The society has suffered an irreparable loss in the death of Miss Sarah Walker. She was a most willing worker, always ready to help in any and every way. To assist those engaged in city missionary work the society voted to establish "The Friendly Hand Closet," where things suitable for sick people could be stored. Our treasurer's report will tell the rest of our story.

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TREASURER'S REPORT.

Treasurer's Report of the Women's Missionary Society of the Second Reformed Presbyterian Congregation of

New York, from April 1, 1916, to April 1, 1917:

Bal. on hand, April 1, 1916.. \$37.08

Receipts:

| | |
|---|--------|
| Society dues | 68.85 |
| Contingent Fund | 35.38 |
| Collection for Mr. Chow's lecture | 10.25 |
| Collection for Miss Tracy's-lecture | 9.00 |
| Syrian and Armenian Fund.. | 194.00 |
| Belgian Fund | 76.00 |
| Thank-offering Collection ... | 132.65 |
| Dorcas Closet Fund | 20.00 |

Total

\$583.21

Disbursements:

| | |
|-------------------------------|--------|
| Aged Peoples' Home..... | \$3.00 |
| Miss Tracy, for lecture | 9.00 |
| Mr. Chow, for lecture | 10.25 |
| Syrian and Armenian Fund.. | 345.15 |
| Belgian Fund | 76.00 |
| Miscellaneous Missions | 9.50 |
| Syrian Mountain Schools ... | 17.00 |
| Dorcas Closet Fund | 20.00 |
| Flowers | 11.65 |
| Delegates to Northfield | 15.00 |
| General expenses | 58.84 |

Total

\$575.39

Bal. on hand, April 1, 1917 \$7.82

Respectfully submitted,

MARGARET L. MCCLEAN,

Treasurer.

A COMMUNION MEMORY

There was a little girl and she was going to her first communion. Her mother brushed out her long, shining hair and loved her much. Perhaps she prayed a little prayer, too, after the fashion of mothers. For the way before the little girl was all untried and her feet were tender. As they gathered at the Lord's table the mother put her arm around the little girl and took the bread from the elder's hand to give her. The old pastor prayed for "those who this day

have acknowledged Thee," and into the heart of the child a light came and a resolve was born to love Him and serve Him forever.

And there was a communion when the mother with the little girl, now grown to be a woman, as little girls must, knelt and together remembered the Lord's death. Tears were falling, for the woman was following the Voice that said, "Go, preach my Gospel," and the way was leading beyond the seas.

And there was a communion in that strange, far land, where the "two or three" met together and rejoiced that at last the church bell was rung, and the Table spread for those who had not known to call upon His name. Only four besides themselves, yet the day was to come when a great congregation would gather in that place, the fruit of many years' labor and untold prayers.

And there came a holy day when the mother and daughter knelt once more together at the Master's feet. The way had been long and the woman had learned much of the joy and sorrow of life in that land over seas. For the last time together they drank that sacred cup until they should drink it anew in their Father's house. The way stretched out long and lonely before the feet of the woman, but the Light never failed and there were those, born out of the darkness, who walked it with her. And as often as the call came, "Do this in remembrance of Me," there was gathered a band of those "who loved the Lord and called upon His name." Out of sin and idolatry, out of ignorance and superstition they came, and the Light shone on them and redeemed them.

And there was yet a communion when the church was crowded to its utmost. The pastor lifted his voice in prayer for those who had first received the water of baptism. "Oh, Lord, I have baptized them with water, baptize Thou their hearts with Thy Holy Spirit. As Thou didst come

up out of the water and wast led into the wilderness to be tempted, so will these, in this very hour, before the setting of the sun, meet with the Evil One. Oh, Lord, may Thy spirit abide with them that they be not tempted above that they are able." And they gathered around their Father's table—men and women and little children. Once they had not known the way to Him, but now the Light was shining on the road and the voice of Jesus was crying, "This is the way—walk ye in it;" and with joy they obeyed. And the woman bowed her head and thanked Him that it had been given her to have a part in it all. To see and hear the company of the Master's children lifting up hearts and voices to Him was joy beyond the telling. And a thought of that great communion, by-and-by, when out of all nations and kindreds and people and tongues they shall gather before the great white throne and forever praise the Name that redeemed them, and when they shall sit down in their Father's house to go out no more, came like a benediction—and, the service ended, the woman went softly to her home.

By a CHINA MISSIONARY.

From Women's Work.

The Women's Missionary Society

of the Pittsburgh Reformed Presbyterian Church desires to place on record a tribute to the memory of Mrs. J. M. Balph, and thereby give expression to their love for this worthy servant of Jesus Christ and the high esteem in which she is held.

Mrs. Balph was called to her reward April 2, 1917. In her departure the society has lost a valuable member, one who was faithful in attending its meetings and ever ready to respond when asked to aid in carry-

ing on the work of the organization. She conducted our Mission Study class of last year, using Dr. Balph's book, "Fifty Years of Mission Work in Syria." We shall ever hold dear the memory of those lessons. Many of the chapters were enriched by the narration of incidents of her own personal experience in Syria. She was, indeed, a charming instructor. We shall miss her and our hearts are filled with sorrow because we shall see her face on earth no more. But we are thankful that we had a few years of sweet comradeship with her, and are comforted by the thought that she has received the welcome, "well done," and has entered into the joy of her Lord.

We extend our sympathy to the bereaved husband and sister, to the relatives and wide circle of friends, and to the missionaries who labored with her in the Lord. While we together mourn her departure we are comforted by the thought that she has gone "to be with Christ, which is far better." In her death we should hear the admonitory voice of Christ saying to us, "Be ye also ready, for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh." May we as members of the Missionary Society have a closer walk with God because we have been touched by this life so thoroughly consecrated to Him Whose she was and Whom she served.

MRS. R. C. WYLIE,

The woes of Chinese medical treatment bear with special hardship on Chinese women. Their physical miseries are beyond estimate. The presence of an educated Christian medical woman in the sick room is one of God's best gifts to China.—*Arthur H. Smith.*

REPORT OF THE JEWISH MISSION BOARD.

During the past year the Jewish Mission has experienced unusual extremes of lights and shadows, of encouragements and discouragements in the work. First of all, soon after the report of last year, the plague of infantile paralysis spread over the city to such an extent that all schools and other places where children gathered were closed by quarantine regulations. This almost completely stopped the work at the mission for two months. Following this came the resignation of Mr. Blair. After three years of earnest endeavor he became convinced that the Mission did not call for just that kind of service which he was qualified to render, and that the work should mainly be carried on along other lines of activity. The difficulty which he found was in the necessary limitation to his preaching. The people understood only the Yiddish language, and he was unable to speak to them in that tongue. Accordingly, on the first of November, we lost at the Mission the service of Mr. Blair. It is only reporting our experience to you to say that we were very much discouraged by this resignation. Seeking to judge situation fairly, we thought that if Mr. Blair could not reach the people, the prospect of a successful work was not bright.

However, we accepted the advice of Mr. Blair based on his three years of experience in the work, that a visiting missionary skilled in organizing and conducting children's and women's classes, and efficient in reaching and talking with people in their homes should be secured. This, it was explained, would necessarily be a woman missionary. Miss Emma McFarland was chosen to be associated with Miss

Forsythe in the work. The result has been most gratifying to the Board, and has vindicated Mr. Blair's view that by such methods the Jewish people could best be reached. At the time of Miss McFarland's election we asked her to come only until the present meeting of Synod, under the thought that we might at this time come to you and tell you our difficulties and ask whether or not you wished the work continued. The work of the year, however, has been such that we have no hesitation in reporting to you that we are well satisfied with it, that we think it is going forward under the favor of God, that we consider the last year one of our most effective years, and that we ask your continued support. Miss McFarland has been elected for another year, and has accepted the position.

During the year Miss Forsythe and Miss McFarland have labored together with a spirit of co-operation of devotion and of faith which has a source of inspiration to all the friends of the mission, and which has made the year's work a success. Their own devotion has further enlisted the services of others and some of the members of the local churches have added their efforts to the work. There is now a Sabbath-School with an average attendance of 35; a Sabbath evening meeting with an attendance of 15; a special prayer circle with a membership of 6; a Mercy Band with an attendance of 37; a mothers' meeting with an attendance of 8; and a girls' sewing class with an attendance of 35. The missionaries have made 1575 visits during the year, and had 220 interviews with inquirers at the mission. There have been made and distributed 148 garments of various kinds. Ninety-one copies of the Scriptures have been distributed. The Sabbath School has voted \$43.57, which has been sent to the relief of the lepers in China, the Armenians in Syria, and to our own Domestic Mission Fund. Miss Mazie Steele raised or contributed \$100.00 to send three

of the Jewish girls to Northfield last summer, where they were cared for in the home of Mrs. Peebles.

Altogether the work is being efficiently and successfully carried forward, and we are glad to report to you that the workers are accomplishing as well as they can the Lord's work and your work in the mission. We are doing something at least toward carrying the Gospel to God's estranged yet covenanted people.

We wish also to make mention of the cordial support of the mission which the church gave when it was needed and asked. At the meeting of the Board in March it was discovered that the treasury was overdrawn \$328.17. This was serious to us, as the mission has no reserve funds of its own to draw upon. Through the columns of the *Christian Nation*, and the OLIVE TREES, this overdraft was reported to the church and an appeal was made for money. At the meeting of the Board two months later, the treasurer was able to report a balance in the treasury of \$394.76.

To pass from a deficit of \$328 to a balance of \$394 within two months, and as the result of a very moderate appeal, was a very gratifying transition. This generous and prompt response of the church was a surprise even to the Board, and we wish to express our appreciation of it. It encourages us to believe that the work is in the mind and on the heart of the church as we had hardly known it was.

The opportunity to visit some of our congregations and women's presbyterian societies has enabled the Board to arrange for Miss Annie Forsythe to be present at this meeting of Synod. We are greatly pleased to introduce her to this court, and we hope that you will hear her in regard to her work. She is a devoted, faithful and efficient worker, whom you will be glad to hear. She has been with the mission for four years.

For the coming year, we ask an appropriation of \$3500.00.

The time for which F. M. Wilson, R. W. Duncan, J. R. Bell and M. M. Pearce were elected has expired, and their successors should be chosen.

J. C. McFEETERS,
President.

McLEOD M. PEARCE,
Secretary.

WAS 20,000 TOO MANY?

John R. Mott states that the men of the universities and colleges who are fighting in the trenches constitute a challenge to the Church of Jesus Christ. He refers to an early criticism of the Student Volunteer Movement and its famous watchword: "The Evangelization of the World in This Generation." It was criticised because it would be too much of a strain upon the colleges of the world to furnish "twenty thousand new missionaries, men and women, in thirty years to accomplish this task." Not long since a cablegram from Germany asked Dr. Mott's permission to translate a book that it might be sent as a Christmas present to 43,000 German students in the trenches. In other words, the universities of one nation had put into the trenches twice as many men as were asked for, men and women, to go into all the world as Christian missionaries in thirty years. The other day a very impressive volume came from Oxford, giving the names of 11,000 Oxford graduates and undergraduates, who have entered the war. The number from Cambridge is a little larger. In other words, these two universities have put into the fight, in less than three years (and about twelve per cent. of them have been killed already), as many men as were wanted from all the colleges of the earth in thirty years. "You will never again," says Dr. Mott, "hear me making such small demands upon young men and young women in our generation."

The American Tobacco Company's Slogan: Cigarettes for every man, woman, boy, and girl in China. It has almost succeeded in realizing that hope. Grandmothers, rickshaw coolies and toddling youngsters puff away at the insidious weed.

*What is the Slogan of the
Church of Jesus Christ?*

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Your committee would report that four papers were referred to us: (1) The Minutes of the China Commission. (2) The request of the Mission in China for counsel as to the ordination of native workers. (3) The report of the Board of Foreign Missions. (4) A resolution calling for a report on sanitary and residential conditions in the China Mission field.

We find the Minutes of the China Commission correct, and ready to be embodied in the Minutes of the Court.

The request for counsel as to the ordination of native workers was referred to us for information only.

On the whole we find the reports from our foreign mission fields are encouraging. True, it is, that the lack of information from the fields of Syria and Asia Minor is cause for some concern on the part of the church for the welfare of those workers still upon the field. The removing of the native workers brings some regret that the work should be thus doubly hampered; and since the war cloud has also recently overshadowed our homeland, we have a renewed apprehension as to their safety and the continuance of the work. It should be the subject of increasing prayer on the part of the whole church that all dangers and difficulties be removed.

Among encouraging things we note the increase in the membership in the Church in China; the successful work done in schools; medical and evangelical departments; the development in ability and efficiency of the native teachers; the increased liberality of the native churches. The request for the ordination of native workers presents a most hopeful outlook for the work in China.

We are truly grateful to the Lord for his safekeeping of the workers in Syria and Asia Minor; for the new opportunities opened to the workers in Cyprus and China; for the new workers who are ready to go out to these fields, and also for the number

of young converts in China who give evidence of preparation for the Christian ministry and give promise of becoming faithful ministers of the Word, and also the remarkable developments of the work in this field, which seems to call for immediate service as ordained ministers of the Gospel.

Our sympathy is with those workers who are detained at home when they would be in the field at work, and also with Dr. Robb, who has been forced to leave his work because of severe sickness, and we earnestly pray with them and for them, that if so be the Lord's Will they all may soon return to their chosen fields.

We believe the action of the Board in sending R. A. Blair as a special messenger to the churches is a good one, and also are assured it will be of great benefit and result in a great forward movement in all the work of the churches. We also record our appreciation of the generosity of that member of the Board who has made this possible.

However, the need still remains and the call for workers is as urgent as ever, and we would again suggest to parents the consideration of the opportunity afforded here to dedicate their children to the Lord's service and also to young people to invest their lives to the greatest profit in Christ's Kingdom. We made the following recommendations:

1. That the representative of the Board of Foreign Missions be heard now, and that in this connection A. I. Robb be heard as representing the work in China, and that all other workers at home on furlough or newly appointed who are present be presented to the Synod.

2. That the resolution calling for a report on sanitary and residential conditions in the Chinese Mission field be adopted, with this amendment—"The Medical Staff of the Mission," instead of "Dr. J. M. Wright," making the resolution read: "Owing to the great loss which the Church has

suffered in the frequent laying aside of missionaries in the Tak Hing field, Synod requests the Medical Staff of the mission to prepare a report on the sanitary and residential conditions in that field as to the possibility of overcoming or eliminating the malarial tendencies which there prevail; that the report be published for the information of the Church as soon as prepared and also submitted at the next meeting of Synod."

3. That we commend the books recommended by the Board to our Mission Study Classes for use during the coming years. The books named are: "The Lure of Africa" and "On African Trail" for adults; "The Mof-fats" for young people, and "African Adventures" for Junior.

4. That we lay over action on the assignment of a Missionary to Canton until next Synod, and that we do not approve of the appointment of any member of the Mission to the Board of Directors with a view to representing this Church in any organic relation.

5. Although Dr. Wright will continue in the work of the Union Hospital until next Synod, that mission boards, missionaries and the membership of the Church generally may understand the present intention of Synod the matter referred to in the resolution laid over until next Synod, this Synod declares that, yet it is not the practice or purpose of this Church to enter upon a policy of Union missionary work.

6. That we commend the earnestness, devotion and sacrifice of our workers in the various fields, and urge the Church to unceasing prayer in behalf of all present workers and their fields, also that the new workers needed and called for may soon be sent forth by the Lord of the Harvest.

7. That inasmuch as R. C. Adams and J. C. Mitchell, licentiates, are under appointment to the mission in China, the Kansas Presbytery be authorized to ordain these men to the

gospel ministry previous to their departure to the foreign field.

8. That R. M. Sommerville, A. A. Samson, M. M. Pearce, J. W. F. Carlisle, R. A. Blair and Henry O'Neill, whose terms on the Board have expired be chosen their own successors.

A. A. WYLIE,
J. B. TWEED,
T. M. SLATER,
J. R. MCGEE,
J. E. HUGHEEY.

JUST ONE WORLD

Oh, the weary months they used to
take,

To travel from East to West,
Crawling along in a wagon-train—
Though they did their very best!

But now, as we fly with the speed of
steam

From Maine to the Golden Gates,
We think no more about "East" and
"West"—

It's just United States!

Oh, the weary weeks they used to
spend

In going across the sea!
We talked of the "New World" then,
and "Old"—

As if such things could be!
But China's our next-door neighbor
now,

And India's not far away;
We talk no longer of "Old" and
"New"—

It's just one world today!

And all the people in all the lands

Are just like me and you;
We don't talk now of "foreigners"—
They're brothers, and sisters, too!
And when we have learned to help
them all,

And to know them, heart to heart,
This world of ours, and God's world
above,

Will not be far apart!

—Mrs. J. F. Seebach in "Our World
Family—A Study for Juniors."

NEWS FROM THE FIELD

AND NOTES OF THE WORKERS

Edited by MRS. FINDLEY M. WILSON, 2517 North Franklin Street,
Philadelphia, Penna.

The mission in China sent a paper to Synod, calling attention to the need of ordained native workers in China, and asking Synod to pass on whether it would be permissible to ordain men to the general work, as, in the judgment of the mission, the time is not yet ripe for installing them over native congregations. The answer of Synod is found in the following quotation from the Report of the Committee on Discipline: "Paper No. 7 requests counsel as to the ordination of native workers and the organization of a Presbytery. We would recommend that we authorize the Commission of China to organize a Presbytery, and ordain licentiates when in the judgment of the Commission the necessity in the field justifies such action; and while we urge the usual precautions in ordaining men to the ministry without a specific charge, we trust the Commission not to take undue liberties in this direction."

* * * *

Mr. Jesse C. Mitchel and Miss Alice Scott Sherbon, under appointment for China, were married June 20th. Mr. Mitchel is a member of the Winchester congregation, and his wife of the Central Church, North Side, Pittsburgh. OLIVE TREES extends hearty congratulations, and wishes for these young people all blessing in their chosen service for Christ, and since public announcement has been made of the engagement of Mr. Richard C. Adams and Miss M. Belle Edgar, of the Sterling, Kansas, congregation we now feel free to tender them, also, public congratulations. In withholding for weeks the interesting news of the engagement of these young friends, the Editor of this Department—being a woman—feels she has exercised a very commendable degree of

self-restraint. The latter couple expect soon to be married, May they all have the divine favor in all blessed measure, and may their cup of joy in life and service be full. The date of prospective sailing for China is August 30. Bon voyage!

* * * *

Since the June issue of OLIVE TREES went to press Miss M. Edna Wallace, M. D., of Stafford, Kansas, has been appointed to China. She also expects to sail August 30. Miss Wallace has had her mind on missionary work for some time, and we greatly rejoice with her that the Lord has led her to devote her life and talents to this high calling. She is a graduate of Ottawa University, Ottawa, Kansas, and of the Boston University School of Medicine. After completing her medical course she spent fourteen months in hospital work, then began private practice in Stafford, Kansas, where she was rapidly acquiring a lucrative practice. Dr. Wallace expresses her unusual joy in the fact that she has received her appointment, and has the prospect of service for Christ in China.

* * * *

The examining physician having expressed some doubt as to whether the physical condition of the Rev. D. Raymond Taggart and his family warrants their return to China, it has been decided that they shall remain at least another year in this country. This does not imply that they are in broken health, but that the climate of Southern China is so exacting that the Board feels no risk of a serious break should be incurred. The interest and sympathy of the Church will be with these servants of the Lord, and prayer will be offered for their strength and guidance.

A letter has been received from Berne, Switzerland, written May 24, by Mrs. A. J. McFarland of our mission in Mersine, Asia Minor. It tells of the safe arrival, after a rather difficult journey, of Mrs. McFarland and her daughter, Margaret, in Switzerland. All the other missionaries were still at their posts when Mrs. McFarland left Mersine with the prospects that they, too, may soon leave. Last word from Latakia was dated March 28. All were well and at work at that time and, as far as known, are still in their places. Mail can be sent to Mrs. McFarland, in care of the American Consul at Lausanne.

* * * *

Larnaca, Cyprus. A cablegram was received from Rev. Walter McCarroll, indicating that he had decided to take his furlough this year but that in the interest of the work he would await the arrival of Rev. R. E. Willson, who had already expressed a willingness to go to Cyprus this summer. This cablegram was received while at Synod. On Monday the members of the Board present at Sterling met in conference with Mr. Willson. After hearing Mr. Willson again express his willingness to go, and his request that the members of the Board decide whether he should undertake the journey, the members engaged in prayer for the Lord's direction. It was then decided that Mr. Willson should go to Cyprus at the earliest date possible. Accordingly Mr. Willson began at once preparation to go. He has applied for passport. Great Britain now requires a permit to be issued by her authorities before a missionary may go to a British possession. Request has been made through the British Embassy at Washington for this permission. We now await developments, making earnest request that the Lord will clearly indicate his will for his faithful and devoted servant. If the way opens for Mr. Willson to go to Cyprus, he will leave his wife and children in America. We ask the Church

to unite in prayer for him and his family.

Tak Hing, China. Rev. J. K. Robb, writing on April 26th, says:

"On a recent Sabbath five elders were ordained by the laying on of hands, and are now officers of the Tak Hing congregation. Preceding the ordination service a sermon was preached from the text 'We are laborers together with God,' emphasis being laid on our part in this co-operation, being sharers in the toil, in the joy, in the honor, and in the reward of this labor. Two of the new elders are teachers in our schools. Another has taken a course in the training school, and is now a native evangelist. Still another has distinguished himself by his activity in witnessing for the truth in this neighborhood, and has been the instrument through whom an awakening has been brought about such as we have never before seen in our field. The fifth is, and has been for some years, a somewhat notable character in our congregation. In some respects he should come first in order. He is the eldest of the five, which, in this land where age is revered, should entitle him to priority. He has also been a Christian the longest of any of the new elders. He was chosen, not on account of his peculiar fitness for the office, for it is not supposed that he will ever be able to do much in the way of active service; but because he has been for years a most eminent example of fidelity to the truth. People outside the church have been free to comment on his faithfulness. He has been letting his light shine. So it seemed to the brethren that it would be a fitting tribute to his zeal to make public recognition of it by making him an elder. On the day of the election he was elected by acclamation. The chairman of the meeting asked all who favored Mr. Ch'an's election to the eldership to stand. The old gentleman was apparently desirous of seeing the vote as nearly unanimous as possible, and so rose and

stood to be counted. The situation was not devoid of humor, just because of the candidate's childlikeness in the matter.

"When our Mr. Ch'an first became a Christian he did not find his household with him in his new faith. Especially was his wife bitter in her opposition to the gospel, and equally bitter toward him for having embraced the gospel. He would mention sometimes the fact that he was not finding his home altogether pleasant. This went on for years, until, strange to tell, his wife herself became a believer. I Peter 3: 1, 2, seems to have been reversed. The old lady was called to be with the Lord, perhaps, two years ago. The old gentleman is failing noticeably, but is still the same faithful witness through his works that he has always been. Faithfulness is in itself a great thing in the eyes of the Lord. In so far our Mr. Ch'an is a true disciple. Such a man is accounted great in the kingdom of Heaven, and we are confident that when he is taken to be with the Lord, he with all others who have shown the same spirit of fidelity, will hear 'Well done, good and faithful servant.'"

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The following is from Rev. W. M. Robb, written April 30, 1917:

"It is the rainy season in this latitude. Bullen's description of rain in the tropics, 'an ocean out of which the bottom occasionally falls,' impresses one at times as not being altogether inaccurate. The past winter has been unusually dry, and as the seasons often go by extremes in this land, heavy rains are quite in order. Farmers are busy everywhere planting rice.

"The spring communions are being held. Rev. J. K. Robb has the work in charge. The sacrament was dispensed at one of the outstations the last Sabbath of April, and services will be held at other points on succeeding days. At Tak Hing the feast day is appointed for the second Sabbath of May. We hope for a blessed

occasion a season of refreshing from the presence of the Lord.

"Work is going forward in this part of China without interruption, and the opportunities for reaching men with the gospel are said to be unprecedented. There has been some pirating on the rivers, but not more than is usual probably. Neither the war situation in general, nor China's break with Germany has had appreciable influence upon mission work in these parts.

"While we labor in peace and quietness, our hearts go out to our fellow-missionaries in these troublous, trying, perilous times, especially since Turkey is reported to have broken off diplomatic relations with the United States have we been exercised on their behalf. The challenge to prayer on their behalf is surely imperative.

"The importation of opium into China is at an end. The ten years' period has just closed. Poppy raising is prohibited in the Republic, and a proclamation has been issued in this province making the use of opium illegal. A great deliverance from a powerful foe.

"The Hospital for the Insane in the city of Canton has over 500 patients. A refuge for lepers shelters over 200. There are other institutions for the blind and other defectives. The spirit of Christ makes an appeal through such channels, for these institutions had their origin in Christian sources. Since the establishment of the Republic, thirty institutions under Government control have sprung into being for various classes of unfortunate.

The Chinese view things with a practical eye. One of our Christians was making a comparison, publicly, not long since, between Christianity and heathen religion as it is expressed locally. He cited the brotherly love manifested in the generous distribution of rice during the terrible floods of recent years here as indubitable evidence of the practical value of

Christianity. This was only one citation among many. He then entered upon a discussion of the impotence of false faiths to help men either for this world or for the next. As we listened, we were thankful that from childhood we had known the Scriptures which are able to make wise unto salvation, and grateful, too, that now the opportunity is afforded to such as this man, to know the unsearchable riches of Christ. *How much are you willing to do to bring men out from the service of idols and into the service of the living God?*

The war is demonstrating how great sacrifices people are willing to make when they are really in earnest and great issues are at stake. Is a corresponding spirit of sacrifice being developed in the Covenanter Church? Yet the issue is infinitely greater, the cause infinitely more worthy. Treasure and blood, how much of both are we ready to pour out, not to destroy men's lives, but to save them?

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Lo Ting, China. Miss Jennie M. Dean sends some news items from the *Lo Ting Weekly News*, of March issues:

"The editor visited Sz Lun recently. Wong Ming Shi has five registered as believers."

"Mr. Mitchell reports that eighteen communed at Lo King on March 25. Two were baptized."

"Five men were executed March 16. They were all from Mr. Mitchell's congregation in the civil prison. At a meeting held in the military prison on March 4 a number testified voluntarily of the comfort that had been brought them through the preaching of the gospel for the last few months."

"The new Lo Ting Kindergarten now has a registration of fifteen youngsters."

"The Lo Ting official presented the dispensary with \$50 last week. He asks that the money be used to buy medicine for poor people."

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Rev. E. C. Mitchell also sends inter-

esting items under date of April 23:

"The work at Lo Ting is going along without much fuss at present, so that there is rather a dearth of news for the OLIVE TREES this month.

"The walls of the new hospital building are up almost half way on the windows of the first story. The main difficulty for the Chinese is to get the money collected which has been promised them. They are getting along very well with the work in spite of the difficulties.

"A new piece of land has been purchased and the deed is to be written in a few days. This new site will be a great deal better for the chapel than the present location, as a great many more people pass that place in a day than ever pass the present chapel.

"We have just been having some trouble with white ants. I found that they had come up through the floor of our store room and into a case of carnation cream which we have had on hand for several months but had not opened. There were thousands of them, and they were all through the box. We had quite a time getting things cleaned up after them. The worst of it is, too, that we cannot get entirely cleaned up without taking up the floor. We are approaching the season for cockroaches, black ants and other insects too numerous to mention, so the housekeeper will not be without a job from now on.

"We are to have a wedding in the chapel within a few days. T'aam Sin Shaang, one of our native preachers, is to be married. This will be the first Christian wedding in Lo Ting.

"Our official class in Lo Ting seems to have got into trouble lately. The sheriff and one other man have been arrested and taken to Canton for taking bribes and extorting money. The magistrate has also been called down there for an examination on the same charge. He was not taken in irons, however, as the others were taken. The new government seems to be getting more strict about such things than they formerly were.

"We plan to have our communion the second Sabbath of May. We always try to have our communion after the rice planting season is over and before the extremely hot weather begins.

"We have been having a good deal of rain lately, but it is all needed for the rice crop that is just being planted. There has been enough to raise the rivers a little but not very much."

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Canton, China. These interesting notes were sent from Canton by Mrs. Wright. As will be remembered, Dr. and Mrs. Wright began their work in the Canton Union Medical Hospital last March. The notes are dated April 30, 1917:

"A week ago two ladies from India stopped here for a day on their way to the United States on furlough from the mission field. One is employed by the United Presbyterian Board, the other by the Christian or Campbellite Board. They were both much interested in the Sabbath School and preaching services, all conducted by Chinese. The girls from the True Light Seminary, the largest Christian school for girls in Canton—in all of China as far as I know—marched into church in a body. There are some three hundred. Miss Noyes, who opened the school over forty years ago with five pupils, is still in charge. It is a treat to know her. She has been out here so long and has worked so hard yet she still keeps sweet. She is an example, not only to the girls and women in her school, but to all of us who wish to grow in the Christian graces.

"Dr. Maud Allen and her mother, who are also on their way home from India, were to visit the hospital on Saturday last. Dr. Allen belongs to the Presbyterian Mission and has had hospital work in India.

"The general who came in some weeks ago very ill with a carbuncle on his neck is much better. He can now bow us out of his room without

letting his manners hurt him physically.

"Mr. Lei, one of the teachers in Miss Stewart's school in Lo Ting, was in a few days since. He was invited to conduct the morning exercises at chapel for the hospital patients and helpers, which he did very acceptably. He spoke for fifteen or twenty minutes on 'God's Great Gift.' John 3: 16. He is a man of talent and education, but spoke very simply.

"A class for Bible study has been organized for the women employees around the hospital. This class meets at 2.30 on Sabbath afternoons.

"We are studying a little book of questions and answers—the answers being Bible verses. The book is divided into eight chapters. They are as follows: God; God's Word; God, the Father; God, the Son; God, the Holy Spirit; God's Laws; the Church; the Day of Judgment. Most of those attending cannot read, but are to learn to read before the summer is over if they are diligent.

"For want of a more efficient teacher, the writer has been pressed into service as director of the cooking class that meets in the Y. W. C. A. rooms on Saturday afternoons. The Chinese women are coming to believe 'That civilized men cannot live without cooks,' and are anxious to learn to make dishes that look well, taste well and digest well.

"At the Women's Conference that met a few days ago a very interesting paper was given, describing the mission work among the boat people. There are supposed to be about three hundred thousand boat people in and around Canton, and, perhaps, ten times that many in these two southern provinces. According to tradition, they were formerly the people living in the lower delta. One year because of floods they were unable to pay taxes to the magistrate so he excused them that year. The next year they again plead poverty, but as the official would not forgive them the debt they compromised on eggs. This

continued for some years till a new magistrate came into power. Evidently he had no such craving for eggs for he insisted that cash be paid and sent soldiers to enforce the rules. The soldiers found none of the farmers at home. They had disappeared around the bend of the rivers in their boats. This occurred again and again. Finally, the official arranged with people farther up the delta that at a given signal they were to come in and possess the land. The next time the soldiers went to collect the taxes, nobody was at home. The signal was given. The upper delta people came and took possession of huts and lands and the lower delta people were left in their boats, and without any land possession. They are not supposed to hold title to land or attain to official positions, though now and again some few have done so, and always to the interests of their own people.

"Very little mission work has been done among them, as they are a roving people, going wherever they can get passengers or cargo, but those few who have been reached have been responsive, and the plan is to have several boats—gospel boats, that ply from place to place, carrying medicines for both body and soul to those who are so needy.

"The native secretary of the Young Women's Christian Association gave a nice talk, telling how that association is trying to interest the Chinese women and girls in things that are for the common good. They sometimes go in small parties to visit hospitals and schools, both to see what is already being done, and to see what they as individuals and as groups of individuals can do to promote the public welfare. Public playgrounds are being planned for, with someone to supervise, and there is talk of a 'Better babies' contest' to teach and encourage ignorant mothers in the care of their children. These conferences are held bi-monthly and, from religious, educational and social point of view, are very helpful.

"A patient was brought into the hospital the other day who had tried a knife on her tongue. Whether she was trying to split it so it would work faster, or whether she had no more use for it, was not made plain, but from the history of the case, one might be led to think the tongue had been mobile enough. The patient is better, with hopes of recovery."

Tak Hing, China. The news budget from Tak Hing contains, besides the locals by Mrs. Julius Kempf, a letter from Dr. Kate McBurney, with an additional bit of the history of the paralytic woman of whom she wrote before, and a sketch by a traveler, our friend, Rev. J. K. Robb.

Mrs. Kempf writes, May 30, 1917, for the last five weeks Rev. J. K. Robb has been busy conducting the communion services at the different stations. The communion at Tak Hing was on the 13th of this month. The weather was fine and we had a very enjoyable and, I trust, a very beneficial time. There were ten baptisms, three women, two girls from the girls' school, two boys from the boys' school and three men, two of whom are teachers in the boys' school. The whole native force of five teachers are Christians.

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This is Dr. McBurney's letter: "Some things we heard on Sabbath morning: Steamer whistles and engines, voices of people in sam pans, an altercation between some neighbors (not Christians), a woman teaching her little foster daughter the Lord's prayer, a man teaching his little boy the commandments. All this going on simultaneously, and not one of them ever thought any one else was listening or would report it. It was an interesting jangle, and I wish you could have heard it.

"Barty is now a merchant. He is the blind man who used to beg in the streets of Doshing. He says it is a very remarkable thing for one who

cannot see to be carrying on the buying and selling of merchandise. He has not found any one who has ever seen any other one who was able to do it. He is out late every night, and when he gets in about midnight he immediately gets his supper and goes to bed. He rises about 6.00 A. M. and wraps up his melon seeds, salted olives, cured peanuts, etc., in small packages, such as his juvenile customers can purchase without too great a strain on the exchequer, gets his breakfast and sallies forth with his cheery "Toodle-doo!" that seems to have a peculiar power over the children and their pennies. He is fortunate in the possession of a chui teck which Dr. Wright presented to him when Barty announced that he was somewhat of a musician some time ago. It is after the style of a flute, only smaller. His sample case is a box strung over his shoulder and covered with wire screen. His wares can be plainly seen, but no one can meddle with them. I wish some of you good people would mail me your bright scraps of—well, any kind of fabric you use for clothes, and are not going to keep. It would help him out on his invoices these hard times. Then I wish you would save all your brown and yellow used stamps and send out for the boy who is making the stamp mosaics. Other stamps he can use, especially the dull greens, and grays, but of the browns and yellows he never seems to get enough.

"Yesterday evening one of the students from the women's school came running in to say she believed the paralytic woman who was here before I went home on furlough was coming up from a boat down at the river bank. Sure enough, it was she, and we held a general rejoicing. She can walk fairly well without a cane, and looks fat and hearty. She and another woman covenanted to commit suicide as they would always be a burden to their friends. She escaped from the delusion but the other woman carried out her purpose and we found

her suspended by her own hand in the patients' kitchen two years ago. It sobered the paralytic some, and she gave it up. She was here a good many weeks, and got a good start on the road to health, but went home before we thought she should go. She said she believed when she left, but we were not sure, as fruits were immature. She asked for her little books that she had been studying, and was allowed to take them home. Yesterday when she arrived, she was like a new woman. She had come for the communion, and wanted to be baptized and eat the Lord's Supper with His people. She had left her door yesterday at 5.00 A. M. and came in a sedan chair to the river, where she arrived at 10.00 A. M. She hired a boat and traveled till 5.00 P. M. when she arrived below our chapel. She had in some way gotten together the two dollars that it takes to hire the chair, and her boat fare, and has with her a piece of grass cloth which she says she prepared so that she could sell and get enough money to go home. She says she wove it herself. We believe her, but to us who used to see her when she was here before, it is little less than a miracle. But that is not all. With her came a woman of about forty years, whose soul seems to look right out at you. I have her story from 'Susan,' who came up to see if I would think it a good thing for her to invite this new woman to stay as her guest for a week and try to learn what she could. Susan is my helper in the medical work among women, and a good help she is. I said she could not afford it. She said 'But she is just like I used to be. There is a first wife and they quarrel, and she is very unhappy. She saw the paralytic when they all thought she would die, and she went away and stayed a long time, and when she came back she could walk a little, but when she saw that she had a new doctrine and what a difference it made in her, she wanted it. She got the woman to tell her all she could about it, and

when she found her trying to get enough money to come up and attend communion, she said she need not wait any longer, that she would help her and they would come together, and she would have a chance to learn more.' Susan added 'She's just like me and I want to help her to get what I have. Then she will be happy.' I told her I had a little money left of what had been given me to use for a blind girl who is no longer in school, and that the donor would be 'ten parts' pleased to have it used for this paralytic and her friend. If she was pleased to help the new one I would also ask the other to stay a week, and use some of this money. I had asked Miss Adams last night if they might attend the women's school and she was delighted to have them do so. This morning Susan was leading in worship, and after we had sung and read she asked us, as usual, to rise for prayer. The patients attend, and these two were there happy and taking what part they could. Quick as a flash the paralytic asked, 'Will you let me do the praying this time?' Of course she was given the privilege. She had not prayed audibly when she was here before. If we expected any sort of a stereotyped prayer, we were disappointed. She had heard some prayers, a good many, while here, but was not very hot-hearted about learning or listening to them. So what she said to the Heavenly Father had a freshness that was good to hear. She was evidently accustomed to speaking to Him, and was not the least excited, or embarrassed. Her voice was quiet, and she spoke slowly, and with more or less of a sing song tone, but with the utmost reverence. One thing she said was, 'When I could not help myself, they brought me to this hospital and you healed me 'eight parts,' I earnestly entreat you to heal me the other two parts. Make me well and help me to 'walk' (live) so as to show forth the glory of Jesus Christ.' She asked a great blessing on the hospital, and on the ones who 'walk healing.' If

she keeps up such praying she will be worth more to the hospital than the hospital has ever done for her. Some of you may remember hearing of this woman as the woman who sold her little hut, the last of her possessions, to come this long distance, on what the neighbors all assured her was a wildgoose chase, and as it seemed to herself. She said she would have to die if she stayed at home, and she could do no worse if she came here.

"They were disappointed to learn that our communion was over a week ago, but Rev. J. K. Robb says he will be glad to have them come up for baptism at any time they are ready. The women are all glad to teach them, and they are both more than glad to learn. They tell us there are many more who want to hear this Doctrine, and that they think some of them may come later. They say some already say they believe, but have had only this paralytic to tell what little she knows. After the spiritual, miracle that has already been added to the physical wonder, we need not limit the Power that could easily heal this woman entirely, but even if it were not His will to give her perfect restoration, we may be sure He could use her greatly, if she is willing, to carry the light into other dark places. If she is willing to stay here till school closes she could get a good start, and we could see if she seemed to be able to learn to read the Bible. If she is it might be well to give her a little more instruction later, and then let her go back to her people. That will, of course, come after she has had her week now. It is something to look forward to.

"While you may be glad to remember her in your prayers from this time on, will you also remember her friend who is so hungry for this 'something?' Will you also remember some of our Christians whose walk and conversation are not at present such as becometh the Gospel, that they may be thoroughly converted and give them-

selves to these already white harvest fields?

We look forward with great satisfaction to the return of the Taggarts and Miss Huston, and to the coming of the new missionaries. Already there are prayers being offered in our daily worship for help in their preparation, parting from loved ones, and for a safe journey. I am safe in promising that this will be kept up until there is no more need for it.

"Susan has just been in to tell me about the good day the women had in school. Then she exclaimed about the woman's prayer this morning. She said she was the more surprised, as she remembered how hopeless she had been about ever getting the woman able to pray audibly, and she did not pray one sentence that I had tried to teach her, so I know the Holy Spirit taught her after she went home. And didn't she pray just right? The first petition was to pray God to forgive sins, and then she thanked Him for healing her. I am sure the Heavenly Father taught her that."

K. McB.

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"The subject of travel is one of more than ordinary interest to the missionary body in China. The fact that modes of transportation in this country are essentially what they have been for long ages, in no wise detracts from the interest that the subject has for the average missionary traveler. At least he finds it difficult to forget that some traveling must be done, and that it must be done without having very much latitude in the matter of method. In some mission lands the auto has been introduced. Even in some regions in the north of China, and also in Japan, the "Ford" is being utilized, and to very great advantage. In the hilly provinces of the south, however, former methods prevail to a very great extent, except in sections where railroad lines have been constructed. Most of the travel done by us is accomplished by one of three methods, or by a com-

bination of these methods. Points up and down the West River can be reached by steamer. Towns situated on smaller streams have a native passenger boat service, power being furnished by coolies, who tow the boats up stream, and row them when coming down. Such boats can, with wind and weather in their favor, cover as much as twenty miles in twenty-four hours. If one finds this method of travel irksome, as the foreigner generally does, he can hire a sedan chair carried by two coolies. That is, most people can, if they care to stand the additional expense, but even when a fair price is offered, it sometimes happens that the coolies have strange prejudices, and are extremely reluctant to undertake to carry one simply because his *avoirdupois* happens to be a little above that of the ordinary traveler. When such unreasonableness is shown, the traveler is driven to one of two things. He can either pay for an extra coolie or two, or else fall back on the most primitive method of locomotion, likewise the most universal one, and take his journey on foot.

It is scarcely necessary to say that one meets with experiences in travel that are not likely to be met with elsewhere. The writer recently made a trip by native passenger boat, that introduced what was to him at least a unique element in travel even in this land where the unexpected so frequently happens. He had gone overland from Tak Hing to Lin Tan, and then from there to Lo Ting, using the same mode of transportation, and with Dr. Dickson for a companion. After enjoying a visit of two or three days with the Lo Ting friends, the traveler started for Tak Hing. After walking some six miles or so, he boarded one of the so-called fast boats, supposed to land travelers at Tak Hing the next morning. This boat was, perhaps, seventy feet long, with a single deck, and underneath this deck a space perhaps three feet deep between deck and the boat's hull.

This empty space is divided into compartments, where cargo is stowed. It so happened that on this trip a number of pigs were taken on board, perhaps twenty of them, and were placed in this hold underneath where the passengers were lying. There were probably forty passengers on board. Each one is supposed to have sufficient room to lie down, but on this occasion the writer was fortunate in finding a place where he could even sit. The night was quite warm, so much so, indeed, that the boat's crew discovered, about 11 o'clock, that some of the pigs were suffering. So the boat was stopped, and an investigation held, which resulted in finding that a number of said pigs were in an unconscious state. The poor beasts were hauled up out of the hold, and stretched out among the passengers, and "first-aid" measures resorted to. One of the coolies dipped up water from the river, a beautiful reddish color it was, and held the vessel so that a brother coolie might take a large mouthful of it. This second coolie then seized one of the unconscious pigs by the snout, placed his mouth so close to the pig's nose that one wondered how much closer it would be possible to get without actual contact, and then squirted the mouthful of water up the pig's nostrils. Sad to relate, even such heroic measures proved unavailing except in two cases. Out of the eight that were taken up from the hold unconscious, but two were restored. The other six were at once put up for sale, and the passengers were regaled during the remainder of the night by the conversation that took place between the owner of the pigs and some prospective purchasers. The writer reached his destination at noon the following day, instead of early in the morning, as he had hoped to do. But when traveling in China one learns to count very little on being anywhere at any given time. Improved methods of transportation would probably do as much as any other one thing of a material character, in bringing about the evangeli-

zation of this land. A literal rendering of Isaiah 40: 4 will be necessary to some extent at least, in order that Isaiah 40: 5, may be completely fulfilled."

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Canton, China. We are indebted to Mrs. J. M. Wright for another interesting letter:

"Canton Hospital,
"Canton, June 7, 1917.

"Every Monday morning a Psalm is sung in Hospital Chapel exercises. This week, the selection was a part of Psalm 34th to the tune 'Rock.' The students in the nurses' training school very much enjoy learning the Psalms, and are also much interested in their Bible lessons on Wednesdays and Fridays. The Wednesday class is studying the Old Testament from outline; the Friday class is studying the Book of Matthew, using the outline put out by the White's Bible School in New York city. It means work for the instructor as well as for those instructed, but is beneficial to all.

"There is a noticeable increase in attendance at morning chapel, partly because of more patients, and partly because of the efforts of a special evangelist, who spends much time in the wards teaching and encouraging and inviting, also he keeps a record of attendance. The average has been over one hundred and forty for over a fortnight. When we realize that the majority of these people had never heard the gospel till coming here, the importance of morning chapel exercises is self-evident.

"The surgical ward is full now. A tumor weighing thirty-six pounds was removed from a patient this morning; perhaps it would seem just as fitting to say, that the patient was removed from the tumor. This afternoon a man was brought in almost gone with a pleura abscess. When he was 'tapped' the contents escaped with a rush that overtook some of the attendants, spoiling their appearances. The prognosis is that both these patients will make an uneventful recovery.

“Rev. C. A. Nelson, of the American Board Mission, has kindly consented to conduct morning exercises in chapel tomorrow morning. He was in today with Rev. Wallace, from India, who is in college work there. Every week some one stops to see the work here. We are glad to meet these friends, for we are all friends in the Far East—we are all interested in the same things.

“Dr. and Mrs. J. O. Thomson left this morning for Canada. Dr. Thomson has been in charge of the hospital for some time and has had very heavy work and has done it well, so well, in fact that his health gave way and he has been ill for weeks, so that the doctors in charge of him while ill suggested to the managing committee that he be granted a furlough in which to take time to get really strong again. We are sorry to have them leave us, as they are such admirable people and so pleasant to work with, but if they come back strong it is that much gain.

“Dr. Boyd and family moved to the hospital compound today. Dr. Boyd has charge of the eye, ear, nose and throat department, and is a valuable asset. His furlough was due this year, but owing to Dr. Thomson’s going home, consented to stay over another year. He comes to the hospital by appointment of the American Presbyterian Board.

“Yesterday the medical staff met and divided up the work. Dr. Cadbury is chief of the medical department; Dr. Boyd, of the eye, ear, nose and throat department; Dr. Thomson, chief surgeon (on furlough); Dr. Wright, pathologist, acting chief surgeon, while Dr. Thomson is away, local business manager, until a regular one is appointed and chairman of the medical staff. Dr. Boyd is secretary of medical staff.

“There are at present one hundred and fifty patients in the hospital, with the number daily increasing; about one-half are surgical. The internes and nurses render valuable assistance.

Miss Lucille A. Withers, of the

Northern Baptist Mission, is general superintendent of the Nurses’ Training School, and at present is in charge of the nurses in the hospital until another foreign nurse is appointed to that work.

“The work here is most interesting. It is good to have the opportunity to help those who are sick in body, and sad at heart, and there is always the *Great Physician*, to whom both they who minister, and those ministered unto, can go for wisdom daily.

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Lo Ting, China. Mrs. E. C. Mitchell writes from Lo Ting, May 24:

“I am enclosing a few items which I think will be of interest to the readers of the OLIVE TREES.

“We are all well and busy. We have certainly been blessed with good weather this spring. Only a few days at one time that were hot and then we have had fine, cool weather for perhaps a week. The warmest weather we have had was during our communion, which was held the thirteenth of this month, but it did not detract any interest from the services, all of which were very helpful. There were sixty-two communicants and quite a crowd of outsiders were present, who gave good attention throughout the services. One boy was baptized, and there are seven applicants for baptism. Three of these applicants are women and Mrs. Dickson has opened a class to help them study the Bible and become better fitted for joining the church.

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“After service on Saturday a congregational meeting was held. Lo Kam Poh was elected chairman and Chung Leung Kwai secretary. The

most important business transacted was the agreement to pay two-fifths of the native evangelist's salary this year. This is not very much but we hope it is the beginning of a forward movement towards self support.

"Dr. Dickson was in Canton the first of the month attending the first meeting of the Board of Directors of the Canton Union Hospital. While there he visited Governor Chu in the interests of the Lo Ting Hospital and was gratified to receive the promise of \$300 for the new hospital building here which will soon be under roof.

"Miss Dean's kindergarten is still growing. She has seventeen pupils now. The school has created quite an interest among the people and nearly every day there are several visitors, some of whom are teachers in other schools in the city.

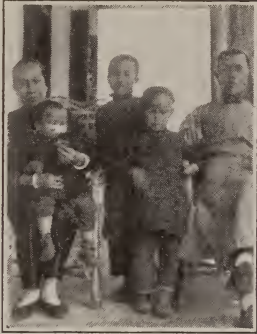
"T'aam Tsz Teng from Lo King was married a few weeks ago to Chung Kam Shui, the widow of the evangelist, who was executed in Canton a couple of years ago for being a revolutionist. The wedding took place at the groom's home south of Lo Ting. It was the first Christian wedding ceremony performed in Lo Ting and was of great interest to all those present. Dr. and Mrs. Dickson stood up with the bride and groom. The ring service was performed by the couple themselves during the prayer and was missed by the guests who had their heads bowed and their eyes closed. However some of the non-Christian Lo Ting element had their eyes fixed on the bridal couple and reported their action. When the groom was asked why he used such a method for placing the ring he said he was afraid to tell that he had the ring for fear Mr.

Mitchell would make the ceremony too long.

"We were glad to receive word of the safe arrival of Dr. Robb and family in the homeland and that the sea voyage was beneficial to him. We are earnestly praying for a complete and speedy recovery to health for him, and that they may be permitted to spend many more years in His service in China. The opportunities are great now and we are so few in number.

"Hui A Mo from Lo P'ing, which is about fourteen miles from here, is the only Christian woman in her village. She is seventy-two years old and through perseverance has learned to read a little. She is interested in helping the women in her own and neighboring villages to become Christians. Last Thursday she walked in here, and on Friday took another Christian woman home with her. They spent four days selling books and teaching the women in different villages. We have no Bible woman here, and, although only a few women can read others are taking great interest in learning to read the Bible, and we are glad to see them working, and so willing to use what little they know in teaching others the way of salvation.

"The C. E. meetings which are held every Monday evening for the Government High School boys are well attended. Three of the young men are Christians. One evening they each gave reasons for joining the church and what led them to believe. All three of them said that Wong Ming Shi convinced them of the truth of Christianity. You may remember of hearing that Mr. Wong was such an earnest personal worker even before he received baptism."



Mr. and Mrs. Leung and Family.

Mr. Leung was converted in Wuchau. For a short time after his conversion he was employed as a bookseller by the English Wesleyan Mission. Because his home is nearer Tak Hing he came to our mission about eleven years ago seeking employment.

When the boys' school was opened in 1907 he was engaged as the first teacher, and has ever since given more or less of his time to that work.

He has taken the three-year course in the Training School, and for the last two years has assisted Dr. Robb in his class work.

He was one of the first elders chosen by the Tak Hing Congregation. In 1913 he was licensed to preach.

Last year was perhaps the busiest year of his Christian life.

Besides teaching eleven hours a week in the boys' school and five hours a week in the Theological Training School, he made thirty-two visits to twelve different out-stations and villages, and conducted eighty-one evangelistic services. This does not include his itinerary and evangelistic work during July and August when he accompanied the group who itinerated through the Ma Hui district.

Mr. Leung is a humble and conscientious worker. We regard him as one of our most faithful, sincere and active Christians.

JULIUS A. KEMPF.

April 30, 1917.

The mother in this Christian home is Lei Lau Yung, or Mrs. Leung, as she is sometimes called.

Some will recognize the name as that of the girl Dr. and Mrs. A. I. Robb ransomed some years ago and had educated in Canton. The Olathe congregation paid the ransom money.

About ten years ago she was married to Mr. Leung, a consecrated Christian.

Mrs. Leung would use her spare time in visiting in the homes with Mrs. A. I. Robb.

At the beginning of last year she expressed a desire to put more time in the work.

An opportunity opened for her to teach a class of girls in a Christian home in a village about three miles north of Tak Hing, Saturday afternoons. On Tuesday afternoons she holds a meeting for women and girls in the same house when she teaches the doctrine. She is now teaching the miracles of Jesus once a week. She is very capable and able to adapt the lesson to her hearers.

From January 1 to June 30 she visited twenty-four homes inside the city of Tak Hing, and nineteen outside of the city of Tak Hing and villages around. Some of these would be visited regularly once or twice a week, where there were some women who were anxious to learn.

During July and August she taught mat making in her home to several women and girls.

From September to January 31 she made fifty-three visits. Mrs. A. I. Robb accompanied her on many of her trips. Now that she is in the home land we miss her presence in this work very much but her heart and interest is still here.

Of those visited by her during the year five were baptized and five others have applied and are in preparation. I do not mean to say that she was the only instrumentality in bringing these to a knowledge of the Saviour, but she helped and did what she could.

I would ask the church at home to remember Mrs. Leung and her work among the women at the Throne of Grace that she will be given wisdom from above and that her efforts will be blessed.

MABEL DOIG KEMPF.

May 1, 1917.

We are thankful that the Heavenly Father is with our missionaries in the Levant and that in their every move He is showing His presence.

The September issue will contain the pictures and information concerning our outgoing missionaries.

We are the children of the converts of foreign missionaries; and fairness means that I must do to others as men once did to me.—Maltbie D. Babcock.

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